

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN

2

日本国初代大統領
櫻木健一郎



ART: TSUGIHARA RYUJI
STORY: HIDAKA YOSHIKI

RAIJIN
GRAPHIC NOVELS

Message from the Author **HIDAKA YOSHIKI**

The First President of Japan is based on my book, The Birth of a President in Japan.

I wanted young people to understand international politics and finances and the U.S.-Japan relationship. I thought the best way to go about doing this was to put the story into manga format. This was the very first time I presented my work as manga. As most readers know, Japan was occupied by the United States following World War II and remained even now, politically and economically, under the umbrella of the U.S. Because of this, there have been few leaders in Japan who will state their opinions and ideas against the United States.

I have been reporting the political relationship between the U.S. and Japan for over 30 years and am now finally beginning to see some changes. I feel that Japan has at last reached the limit of its dependence and reliance on the U.S.

In this manga, I wanted to express the point that Japan can break away from the United States and act as an equal entity while preserving its relationship with the U.S.

What exactly is a nation? This was a question that loomed over me and one that I wanted to answer.

I know I must have put Mr. Tsugihara through a lot in order to transform my original story into a comic series but, thanks to him, I feel that we were able to influence and re-educate all age groups in Japan.

I am extremely happy that this manga is being published in English and in the U.S., and hope that many Americans will come to understand and think more thoroughly about the relationship of our two countries.



I hope that this manga reaches many American readers, especially students and those working in the financial and political fields.

Hidaka Yoshiki
Washington, D.C.



田高義樹

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN

Volume 2

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THE CONDITION FOR INDEPENDENCE
FROM AMERICA

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN

日本国初代大統領 板木健一郎



VOLUME 2

ART: TSUGHARA RYUJI

STORY: HIDAKA YOSHIKI

MANGA

Suspense/Political Drama

US \$9.99

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN

The new leader of Japan must build a new government as the superpowers enter into war in Southeast Asia. With conflict at the borders and enemies at home, how will this leader protect his country—and himself?

Sekuregi Kenichiro, a reform-minded independent, has won the first-ever direct election for the Japanese Prime Minister. With expanded powers under the new constitution, the media dubs him the "president of Japan." He has pledged to reform the corrupt and inefficient system and make Japan a strong and powerful modern nation. But just as he takes office, war breaks out in Southeast Asia. The U.S., China and other superpowers all begin to enter the conflict. Now Sekuregi must defend himself and Japan from external foreign powers as well as domestic enemies who see his new reforms as a threat. Will Sekuregi be able to protect his country, his new administration and his own life from these attacks?



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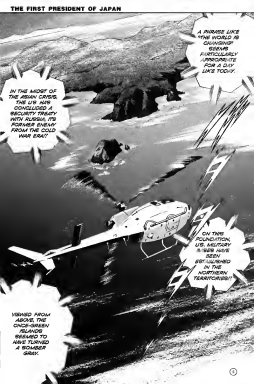
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**RAIJIN**
GRAPHIC NOVELSwww.raijincomics.com

**CHAPTER 8:
A THREAT TO
JAPAN'S TOP
COMPANIES!**







IN THE MIST OF
THE ASIAN DRYD,
THE IJA HAS
CONCLUDED A
SECURITY TREATY
WITH RUSSIA, ITS
FORMER ENEMY
FROM THE COLD
WAR ERA?

A PHRASE LIKE
"THE WORLD IS
CHANGING"
SEEMS
PARTICULARLY
APPROPRIATE
FOR A DAY
LIKE TODAY.

ON THE
FOUNDATION,
IJA MILITARY
BARRACKS HAVE
BEEN
ESTABLISHED
IN THE
NORTHERN
TERRITORIES?

VIEWS FROM
ABOVE, THE
ONCE-GREEN
ISLANDS
SEEMED TO
HAVE TURNED
A BOMBER
GRAY.



**CHAPTER 8:
A THREAT TO
JAPAN'S TOP
COMPANIES!**



THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA AND
THE RUSSIAN
FEDERATION HAVE
AGREED TO WORK
TOGETHER IN
MAINTAINING
WORLD ORDER.

WE HAVE
CONCLUDED
THIS TREATY
TO ENSURE
WORLD PEACE!



THE CRISIS IN
JAPAN IS
DEVELOPING
INTO A
SITUATION THAT
THREATENS TO
THROW THE
ENTIRE WORLD
INTO CHAOS!

EVERY NATION HAS
THE OBLIGATION TO
ENSURE THE SAFETY
AND WELL-BEING OF
ITS PEOPLE AND TO
DO ANYTHING
WITHIN ITS POWER
TO PROTECT ITS
CITIZENS.



WE ARE
RESOLVED NOT
TO TOLERATE
ANY KIND OF
POLITICAL OR
MILITARY
ACTIVITY THAT
THREATENS
WORLD
PEACE.





THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN





NOW THAT WE NO LONGER FACE THE THREAT OF CHINA FOLLOWING THE TERMINATION OF THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY.

SHOULDN'T WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE U.S. MILITARY FROM JAPAN AS A GREAT DEVELOPMENT?

IN OTHER WORDS, JAPAN IS QUITE CAPABLE OF PROTECTING ITSELF WITH ITS OWN SELF-DEFENSE FORCE, WITHOUT THE HELP OF THE U.S.



THINGS ARE MOVING AWAY TOO RAPIDLY FOR THE U.S.

...THE CONCLUSION OF A TREATY WITH RUSSIA, AND THE RELOCATION OF BASES TO THE FOUR NORTHERN ISLANDS...

THE ASIAN CRISIS, THE TERMINATION OF THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY.

国際政治研究センター

RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF
INTERNATIONAL
POLITICS



THEY'LL PERSEVERE FOR EVERY POSSIBLE SCENARIO TO PREVENT SITUATIONS THAT GO AGAINST THEIR COUNTRY'S INTERESTS.

THE U.S. IS FOND OF CASE STUDIES.

IT'S DIPLOMATIC COMMON SENSE TO THINK THAT THIS HAS ALL BEEN PLANNED.



PHOTO COURTESY
KHOON NEWS SERVICE

RUSSIA IS NO LONGER CAPABLE OF PAYING OFF ITS ENORMOUS DEBT TO THE U.S.
IF THE RUSSIANS CAN CANCEL THIS DEBT AND RECEIVE ECONOMIC AID, HOWEVER LITTLE...

IT'S NOT A BAD DEAL FOR THEM BEHIND. THEIR DOMESTIC ECONOMY IS FALLING APART.



THE
PROBLEM
IS NOT THE
FACT THAT
THE TREATY
WAS TERMIN-
ATED.

RATHER,
IT IS HOW
SERIOUSLY
THE WORLD
WILL TAKE
A JAPAN NOT
PROTECTED
BY THE U.S.



MR.
SAWAGUCHI
?



SINCE
THE WAR,
JAPAN'S
FOREIGN
AFFAIRS HAVE
BEEN
COMPLETELY
DICTATED
BY THE U.S.



IF WE DON'T,
JAPAN IS
DOOMED.

THE STAKES
ARE HIGH.
GENTLEMEN,
WE MUST
PUT THIS
COUNTRY
BACK ON
TRACK.



EVEN IF WE
COULD OVERCOME
THE SELF-
DEFENSE FORCE,
IT'S MUCH TOO
LATE...



SAWAGUCHI!
WE'VE HAD MORE
THAN 5,000
JAPANESE
CASUALTIES IN
THE KOREAN
WAR!





WE HAVEN'T EVEN
CELEBRATED YOUR ELECTION
VICTORY!
WHEN CAN YOU
STOP BY?



KENNY-
ROD?



I'M SORRY,
NOW'S NOT
THE TIME FOR
A LEISURELY
DRINK...



YOU'RE
FLIPPING
MORE THAN
DRIVE
ARE YOU
EVEN DRINK-
ING?

OWH
YOU
BRUTE!



YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO
ASK ME IF
YOU CAN
STAY AT MY
PLACE
TONIGHT,
ARE YOU?

OH? AND
WHY IS
SUCH A
BUTT MAN
CALLING
ME AT
THIS
HOUR?



YOU
DO?



I NEED
YOUR HELP.

I NEED A PRIDE
FROM YOU, THE
DAUGHTER OF
THE MAN THEY
CALLED THE
ARISE, JUDGE
OF JAPAN



KONICHIRO,
THERE ARE
BROODING
PEOPLE



THE FIRST
ONE IS...

I ASKED YOU TO
ASSEMBLE THE
FOLLOWING TEN
PEOPLE... AND THIS
IS STRICTLY
CONFIDENTIAL!



UM...
SUNSHINE
SUN



SEE YOU
TOMORROW!
SUNSHINE
SUN

WHAT'S
HAPPENING
TO
JAPAN?



THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN





I'LL MAKE
YOU MY
SPECIALTY:
STIR-FRY
FRIED RICE!



IT'S BEEN
A LONG
TIME!
HOW ARE
YOU?

OH, I'VE
BEEN OK,
I GUESS.



YEAH, THE
EFFECTS OF
THE BAD
ECONOMY.

A REAL SHOCK!
AUNT HONG WAS
COMPLAINING THAT
THE LAND VALUE IN
THIS AREA HAD
DOUBLED
DRAMATICALLY.

I SEE A LOT OF
SHOPS HAVE
CLOSED SINCE
I WAS HERE
LAST...



PEOPLE ARE
LEAVING LIKE
RATS!
JUMPING A
BOARDING SHIP!



THAT'S NOT
ALL, IS IT FOR
THE FIRST TIME
GUY? A LOT OF
ASIAN TOURS
COMPANIES HAVE
BEEN CANCELLED!
JUMP BOAT TO
JAPAN.



BUT THE FLIGHTS
FOR HONG KONG
AND SINGAPORE
ARE FULLY
BOOKED. THEY'VE
EVEN INCREASED
THE NUMBER OF
FLIGHTS...





THE FOLLOWING DAY

TOKYO STOCK MARKET CRASHES!

WILL JAPAN RECOVER!?



Column of text, mostly illegible due to image quality.

U.S.-RUSSIA SECURITY TREATY DAMAGES JAPANESE ECONOMY



Column of text, mostly illegible due to image quality.



WELL... HELL THE HELL IS GOING ON??

STOCK
PRICES
DROP!
YEN
DROPS!!
JAPAN
DROPS!!!

ON THE ONE HAND,
PEOPLE ARE HAPPY
THE MILITARY BARS
ARE GONE...

BUT ON THE OTHER
STOCK PRICES ARE
FALLING SINCE THE
TERMINATION OF
THE TREATY







THAT'S WHY
WE MUST
MAKE JAPAN
GO THROUGH
A LIVING
HELL!

FOR THE
SECOND
STEP OF
THE ASIAN
STRATEGY!!

WITH A
HEADED
JAPAN, WE'LL
CONCLUDE A
NEW SECURITY
TREATY, WITH
BETTER TERMS
FOR US!

IF WE DO
THAT, THE
MARKET
COLLAPSE
WILL BE
OVER SOON!



AMERICA IS
ABOUT TO
SWALLOW
JAPAN
WHOLE!!

WHY, DO
YOU THINK
WILL BE
HAPPENING?



THIS HAS CAUSED
CHaos IN THE
JAPANESE AND
ASIAN MARKETS, AND
THERE IS TALK
OF SLOWING
TRANSACTIONS.

IF THIS
UPENDING
TOKYO FOREIGN
EXCHANGE
MARKET, THE NEW
DOLLAR IS
GOING TO THE
DOLLAR.

EFFECTS OF
THE RESIGNATION
OF THE TREATY HAVE
A NEGATIVE IMPACT
ON THE FOREIGN
EXCHANGE MARKET
AND STOCK EXCHANGE

THIS IS
THE 7
DOLLAR
HERE.

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN







Y...
YOKO !!



SANJIBAN
SPEAKING.



THEY'RE
ALL LOOKING
FORWARD TO
WHAT YOU
HAVE TO SAY.

I INVITED
ALL OF
THEM TO MY
COTTAGE
NEAR MT.
FUJI
TOMORROW
AT 1 PM.



THANKS.
I OWE YOU
ONE!







THIS IS AN URGENT MATTER, BUT HOW CAN HE RESPOND WITHOUT KNOWING THE TERMS FOR OUR COUNTRY?



THE MAIN REASON FOR THE LOSS OF TRUST IN JAPAN IS THE ANXIETY REGARDING NATIONAL DEFENSE.

WIPAK IS INTERESTED IN CONCLUDING A MILITARY TREATY WITH CHINA, BASED ON SECURITY. IMMEDIATELY!



W... WITH *YOUR* HELP, YES!



WE THOUGHT AN ECONOMIC AID PACKAGE...

W... WELL... YES... UH...



IS THE JAPANESE ECONOMY SOUND ENOUGH?



REALLY? TO THINK YOU WERE SUCH A CHARMING MONSTER!

VERY WELL, THEN, WE'LL CONSIDER YOUR PROPOSAL FAVORABLY.





B-B-BUT

WHAT?

...ON THE
CONDITION THAT
YOU RELOCATE
THE AGENT
OFFICES OF
JAPAN'S MAJOR
CORPORATIONS
TO CHINA!



THAT WOULD
BE IMPOSSIBLE
AS IT IS
AGAINST YOUR
CONSTITUTION,
YES?

YOU MENTIONED
A MILITARY
TREATY, BUT ARE
YOU PREPARED
TO DISPATCH
YOUR MILITARY
FOR A CRISIS
IN CHINA?



AND NEED
I REMIND YOU
THAT YOU
JUST SAID
THAT YOUR
ECONOMY IS IN
NEED OF OUR
HELP?

THEN IT'S
REASONABLE
TO OFFER
ECONOMIC
STRENGTH
OF EQUAL
WORTH, ISN'T IT?



WELL,
WHAT'S
YOUR
ANSWER?
P



AGHH









GAAH IT?
WHAT ARE
THEY ALL
DOING WHEN
JAPAN IS IN
CRISIS LIKE
THIS?



HOW MANY
DID YOU
CONTACT?

NEVER
MIND THE
SECOND?



WELL, NONE
AS OF YET...
I...APOLOGIZE



SORRY
ABOUT
THAT!
SHALL WE
PROCEED
UP?

YES,
YOU THREE
GENTLEMEN
ARE THE
LAST TO
ARRIVE



THAT
WAS
QUITE
A WALK!

OH, IS
EVERYBODY
HERE
ALREADY?



YOU KNOW WE
CAN'T TURN
DOWN AN OFFER
FROM YOUNG
MADAME
YONG!



RESPECTS...



THANK YOU
VERY MUCH
FOR COMING
TODAY DESPITE
YOUR BUSY
SCHEDULES



WE'VE
BEEN
WANTING
TO SEE
WHAT THIS
MAN IS
MADE OF!











WE'RE
BUSINESSMEN.
AFTER ALL
A BORDERLESS
ECONOMY IS
THE ONLY
AVENUE LEFT
FOR US TO
PURSUE
PROFITS



WITH THE
COLLAPSE OF THE
STOCK MARKET,
HE MUST ACT
WITHOUT DELAY
IN THE PURE
INTERESTS OF OUR
COUNTRY.



WHETHER IN THE
MIDDLE EAST OR IN
SOUTHEAST ASIA,
WE'VE BEEN ABLE
TO DO THIS
EFFICIENTLY
BECAUSE THESE
REGIONS ARE
CONTROLLED BY
U.S. DOLLARS.

EVEN SINCE
THE WAR,
JAPANESE
COMPANIES HAVE
DONE BUSINESS
ON AN AMERICAN
CULTURE
OF AMERICAN
RULE.

AND WE ARE
UNABLE TO
COMPLY WITH
THE POLICY THAT
THE PRESENT
GOVERNMENT IS
ABOUT TO
IMPOSE.



WE'RE
JAPANESE.
I DON'T WANT
TO ABANDON
MY COUNTRY.
BUT I DON'T
NEED TO EXPLAIN
MYSELF TO YOU.

THIS IS
OUTRAGEOUS!
I'M LEAVING!

I AGREE
I'M LEAVING.
TOO...



...AND
TAKE THE
EASY
WAY
OUT.

SO YOU
ABANDON
JAPAN



WE DON'T
WANT TO
ABANDON
OUR
CULTURE
OR
COUNTRY.
WE'RE
STILL
HERE.
WE'RE
STILL
HERE.

AND THAT
IS NOT
SOMETHING
WE CAN
CHANGE



...TO
THREATEN
YOU?



WHAT
IF

PLEASE
DON'T
MISUNDER-
STAND ME



I DID NOT
COME HERE
TODAY TO
PUNISH
YOU...

I HAVE
COME...



I
WANT



TH...
THANK-YOU



T...
YOU'RE TRYING
TO GET
RID OF US?

R...
RESIGNATION
IP

WHAT
IP

ALL OF YOU
TO TENDER YOUR
RESIGNATIONS.
RIGHT
HERE AND
NOW!

YOU
DON'T
HAVE THAT
AUTHORITY!!



THAT IS
NOT ALL,
GENTLEMEN.

I REQUEST
THAT YOU
BECOME
MEMBERS
OF MY
NEW
CABINET!





I'M
INTERESTED
TO KNOW IF
YOU HAVE
ANY IDEAS
ABOUT THAT.



WITHOUT A
NATIONAL
SECURITY
POLICY TO
REPLACE THE
US-JAPAN
TREATY, ITS
MEANINGLESS.



...THAT WE
CANNOT
AVOID WHEN
DISCUSSING
JAPAN'S
NATIONAL
SECURITY.

THERE
IS ONE
IMPORTANT
MATTER...



NOT
THAT
!

WHAT
?



WITH
JAPANESE
TECHNOLOGY,
THIS OPTION
IS NOT
IMPOSSIBLE.



YOU...
YOU DON'T
MEAN...

NUCLEAR
WEAPONS
!

WITH THE HELP OF
YOU GENTLEMEN,
WHO HAVE BEEN
FIGHTING ON THE
WORLD STAGE,
YOUR WHOLE LIVES,
I BELIEVE WE CAN
FIND A NEW
SOLUTION.

WE CAN
NO LONGER
AVOID THIS
MATTER!

MAKE NO
MISTAKES. THE
OUTCOME OF
OUR
DISCUSSION
WILL FORM
THE
FOUNDATION
OF A NEW
JAPAN.

GENTLEMEN!
THE
FIRST ITEM
ON THE
AGENDA
OF THE FIRST
CABINET
MEETING IS
NUCLEAR
WEAPONS.





HAVE YOU
GONE
MAD,
SAKURAGI
IP

N
NUCLEAR
WEAPONS
P

CHAPTER 9: A GIFT FROM AMERICA

①



JUST BECAUSE
WE NO LONGER
HAVE THE
SECURITY
TREATY, DON'T
YOU THINK
THAT'S A BIT
STARK?

MR. SAKURAGI,
THIS ISN'T
SOMETHING TO
EXPECT THE
NEXT PRIME
MINISTER OF
JAPAN TO
MENTION.

②



HAS OUR
NATION
EVER GIVEN
SERIOUS
THOUGHT TO
NUCLEAR
WEAPONS
OR
NATIONAL
SECURITY?

THEN
I ASK
YOU...

③



**CHAPTER 9:
A GIFT FROM
AMERICA**

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN



OR WITH A JAPANESE CITIZEN IS ABDUCTED TO ANOTHER COUNTRY, THE GOVERNMENT CAN'T TAKE ANY EFFECTIVE ACTION

THEREFORE, EVEN WHEN OUR OWN PEOPLE ARE EXPOSED TO DANGEROUS OVERSEAS...



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AFTER LOSING THE WAR, JAPAN WAS CHAINED IN ACCORD WITH THE CONSTITUTION THAT AMERICA IMPOSED ON US

IN EXCHANGE FOR PROTECTION UNDER THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY, WE'VE BEEN FORCED TO GIVE UP OUR RIGHT TO "SHEEN" OF OUR OWN NATIONAL SECURITY.



TO WAIL ABOUT THE MENACE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS FOR EMOTIONAL REASONS WITHOUT A REAL DISCUSSION OF OUR NATION'S SECURITY IS REMISS AND IRRESPONSIBLE!

BUT WITH THIS ASIAN CRISIS, AND WITH THE SECURITY TREATY GONE, WE CAN'T STAND IDLY BY!



WE THE ONLY COUNTRY CAPABLE OF SUPPLYING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, JAPAN MUST HAVE POWER TO USE

DON'T MISUNDERSTAND ME. I DON'T WANT TO SEE NUCLEAR WEAPONS EITHER.



BUT...

END

THERE CAN
BE NO
INDEPENDENCE
WITHOUT
DEFENSE OF
THE NATION!

BUT
JAPAN
IS AN
INDEPENDENT
NATION!

AND
NATIONAL
SECURITY
P

I ASK YOU,
THEN...WHAT
IS YOUR IDEA
OF NATIONAL
DEFENSE?

"SECURITY
AND SAFETY
FOR ALL
CITIZENS."
THAT IS
MY
PRINCIPLE!

TO
TAKE ALL
MEASURES
POSSIBLE IN
ORDER TO
PROTECT
THE SAFETY
OF EACH
AND EVERY
CITIZEN.





THESE STUDENTS WERE CONFINED AND EVEN TODAY THEY LIVE IN THEIR JAIL CELLS IN FEAR OF EXECUTION

POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA IS A CAPITAL CRIME UNDER SINGAPOREAN LAW

12



A SMALL AMOUNT OF DRUGS WAS FOUND IN THEIR LUGGAGE

IT HAD BEEN GIVEN TO THEM BY SOMEONE THEY RESEMBLED IN GALL, WHO ASKED THEM TO GIVE IT TO HIS "FRIEND IN JAPAN"

13



UNBELIEVABLE!

TH... THAT'S AN OUTRAGE!

14



OUR PRIME MINISTER, OUR MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND OUR DIPLOMATS WON'T MOVE TO SAVE EVEN ONE JAPANESE PERSON.

OR MAYBE IT'S ACCURATE TO SAY THAT THEY CAN'T MOVE.

15



HOWEVER, MOST JAPANESE DON'T EVEN KNOW ABOUT THIS.

THERE ARE MANY OTHER JAPANESE INCARCERATED IN PRISONS ALL AROUND THE WORLD FOR CRIMES THEY DID NOT COMMIT

16









I WON'T
LEAVE THIS
COUNTRY.

WHAT
--P

I'M
STAYING.

STAYING HERE? INFORMATION
PASSING?
REVENUE? (SOUND)



IT'S
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT FROM
MAKING LARGE
DONATIONS TO
ROUND CORN.
DOING VOLUNTEER
WORK AS I HOPE.
YOU KNOW.

YOU MAY
BE A GREAT
DEVELOPMENT
OF THE
FOUNDING
PRESIDENT,
BUT THIS IS A
CRISIS
MATTER.

WELL, NOW
TODORNIK.
IS IT WISE
TO TAKE
SUCH A
RISKY
DECISION SO
LIGHTLY?



BUT EVEN
I KNOW
THAT THERE
WILL BE
PEOPLE
WHO WILL
STAY IF
WE LEAVE.

I AM SURE
THAT
PEOPLE
CALL ME
"THE
OUTCAST"
BUT I DON'T
CARE.

I BECAME
PRESIDENT AT
THE AGE OF
THIRTY-FIVE.
FOLLOWING THE
SUDDEN DEATH
OF MY FATHER,
THE PREVIOUS
PRESIDENT.



IF WE
RELOCATE
OVERSEAS,
ONLY OUR
MANAGEMENT
AND
TECHNICAL
STAFFS
WILL BE
GOING.

THAT
MEANS
THE BANG-
AND-FILE
ARE LEFT
BEHIND.



...I HAVE THE
RESPONSIBILITY
AS THE LEADER
OF MY COMPANY
TO GUARANTEE
THE ECONOMIC
WELL-BEING
OF MY
EMPLOYEES.



JUST AS
MR.
SAKURAGI
CARES
FOR HIS
PEOPLE...



I CAN'T LET
YOUNG
SAKURAGI
PRESS THE
NUCLEAR
BUTTON.
AFTER
ALL...

OH,
WHAT
THE
HELL.



BUT THE IDEA
OF DOING
SOMETHING
FOR
THE COMPANY
AND THE
NATION THAT
NURTURED
ME IS
APPEALING.

I'LL STAY
TOO. I'M
HEREBY A
HERED PRES-
IDENT, AND
MIGHT LEAVE
THE COMPANY
ONE DAY.



I AM
EXTREMELY
GRATEFUL!





I ASSUME
YOU'VE
ALREADY
ANTICIPATED
THE
OUTCOME
OF THE
MEETING?

NOPE,
I HAD



MR.
BAKURACH!
THERE'S
SOME-
THING
I WANT TO
ASK
YOU



THEN WHY
DID YOU
INVITE THOSE
WHOM YOU
KNEW
WOULD
LEAVE?



THIS WILL
BE MY
RESOLVE
AS THE
NEXT
PRIME
MINISTER
OF THIS
NATION!

TO INFORM THEM
THAT WHEREVER
THEIR COMPANY
HEADQUARTERS MAY
BE, I SHALL ENSURE
THE WELL-BEING OF
THEIR EMPLOYEES.
THE JAPANESE
CITIZENS WHO LIVE
OVERSEAS.



HUMPH!
YOU ARE
EXACTLY
THE MAN WE
EXPECTED
YOU TO BE.







HE ASSAULTED
THE REPRESENT-
ATIVES OF TEN
MAJOR FIRMS
AND HAD A
CONFIDENTIAL
MEETING

IT'S
SAKURAGI!



AND
?

MR. PRES-
IDENT? WE'VE
FOUND OUT
WHY THEY'RE
REFUSING
TO TALK
WITH YOU



WE'RE NOT SURE
OF THE DETAILS,
BUT IT SEEMS THAT
SEVERAL COMPANIES
HAVE REVERSED
THEIR DECISIONS TO
MOVE THEIR
HEADQUARTERS
OVERSEAS.

WHAT?
SAKURAGI,
ALREADY??

AND? WHAT
WAS THE
MEETING
ABOUT??



HOW MANY
TIMES
WILL HE
STAND IN
MY WAY
??

THAT
BASTARD,
SAKURAGI!
!



BAM!





DRAW
HIM
DOWN
FROM HIS
POSITION
AS THE
NEXT
PRIME
MINISTER!



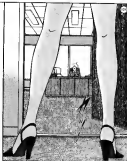














IT'S
AMY!
AMY
SPIDER
!

TSK, TSK,
TSK...
I KNEW
YOU'D SAY
THAT!



R...
RACHAEL
P



BEAUTIFUL
THAT
LITTLE
BABY IS
YOU
P

A...
AMY
P



OKAY... NOW
THAT DOUT IS
DEFINITELY
THE AMY
I KNOW!



...AND I'VE
MODELED
FOR
FASHION
MAGAZINES
A FEW
TIMES,
TOO!

WELL,
EXCUSE
YOU!
I WAS THE
HOMECOMING
QUEEN
IN MY HIGH
SCHOOL.



NO, YOU
STILL
HAVE THAT
KINDA
SHY
LOOK



IT'S BEEN
A WHILE
I'M SURE
YOU
NOTICED
THAT I'VE
CHANGED.

WHILE
YOU'VE
GROWN UP
AND BECOME
A BEAUTIFUL
WOMAN,
I'VE BECOME
AN OLD MAN



IT'S FROM DADDY

WAS THAT?



HE KEEPS
IT'S PROMISE
AS USUAL



HE SAYS
"THIS IS
THE CHATEAU
FIDELIC
I PROMISED
YOU. IT'S
TOO BAD
WE CAN'T
DRINK IT
TOGETHER."



WASP



OF COURSE
I'LL HAVE
SOMETHING
READY FOR
YOU TO TAKE
BACK WHEN
YOU GO
HOME

SO, HOW LONG
ARE YOU STAYING?
I WOULD'VE LIKED
TO SHOW YOU
AROUND JAPAN,
BUT UNDER THE
CIRCUMSTANCES
I'M AFRAID I CAN'T.



NATHAN,
MY APPRE-
HENSION IS
TO
BECOME A JOUR-
NALIST

I'M
MAJORING IN
JOURNALISM
IN COLLEGE



YOU
AREN'T?



I'M NOT
GOING
BACK FOR
A WHILE







JEFFER-
SONP
SECRE-
TARY OF
STATEP



HE
RECENTLY
TOLD ME
TO TELL YOU
THIS:
NO
MATTER
WHAT



AT THE
SAME TIME
THAT YOU
TAKE
OFFICE AS
JAPAN'S
PRIME
MINISTER...

...DADDY
WILL BE
APPOINTED
AS
SECRETARY
OF STATE OF
THE UNITED
STATES OF
AMERICA





HE'S
TELLING
ME THAT
THE U.S.
STILL
BELIEVES
IN JAPAN.



NOW I
GET IT.
YOU ARE
HIS
MESSAGE.



...WE
BELIEVE
IN YOU.

NO,
KEN...



WHAT?
P

AMY,
JUST
ONE BIT
OF
ADVICE.

KEN!
STOP
TREATING
ME LIKE
A CHILD!

HEY, BIG
WORDS
COMING
FROM
SUCH A
LITTLE
BABY!

HUNT
TAKEN

DON'T
CALL ME
KEN.

IN JAPAN,
YOU DON'T
CALL YOUR
BOSS BY
HIS FIRST NAME.

...THE
MOMENT
OF
HISTORIC
CHANGE
THIS
NATION
WILL GO
THROUGH
!

WATCH
WITH
YOUR
OWN
EYES...

YES, BOSS!





**CHAPTER 10:
SAKURAGI KENICHIRO'S
SECRET PAST**

BUT
I DON'T
BELIEVE
HER.

MOM SAID THIS
WAS HOTSHOT,
LEAST A
SHOTSOT
FROM COLLEGE.

LIFE,
THEY LOOK
TODD COLEY

THERE HAS
TO BE
MORE TO
DO THIS



CHAPTER 10:
SAKURAGI KENICHIRO'S
SECRET PAST







WHAT
DO
YOU
THINK?



— THAT'S
WHAT
WE
FOUND.

ONCE
THIS
BECOMES
PUBLIC, THE
UPROAR
WILL BE LIKE
A SWARM OF
BEEH
AROUND
SAKURASHI.



IT MEANS,
"DON'T GIVE
YOUR PREY
EVEN THE
SMALLEST
CHANCE."



THEY SAY
THAT "A
LION HUNTS
WITH ALL ITS
STRENGTH,
EVEN WHEN
GOING AFTER
A WEAK
RABBIT."



SAVOR
THE
MOMENT
OF THE
KILL
!



I'LL
SET
THE
STAGE.





SHE'S...
A PRECIOUS
MEMORY OF
THE PAST.



WHAT
DOES
MOM
MEAN
TO YOU
?

THIS IS NOT
JUST A
SNAPSHOT
OF MISS
COLLIER
SLEEPING.



THEN WHY DID
SHE MARRY
DADDY?

AND HOW
CAN KEN AND
DADDY STILL
BE BEST
FRIENDS?

I KNEW
IT! KEN
AND MOM
USED TO
BE
LOVERS!



BEHOLD,
MY
COFFEE'S
GETTING
COLD.



HEY!
I THOUGHT
YOU SAID
ONE
QUESTION.

WHY
IS...?







ACCORDING TO
YOUR VICE PRES-
IDENT'S THUMBING,
A PORTION OF THE
TAX PARADISE
MONEY HAS BEEN
SENT REGULARLY
TO POLITICAL
PARTY LEADERS.



TAMAKI-HANAMURA
30th anniversary
Paris-Collection

BUT AT
THE MOMENT
I AM QUITE
OCCUPIED WITH
PREPARATIONS FOR
THE FASHION SHOW
IN PARIS
CELEBRATING
TAMAKI-
HANAMURA'S
30TH ANNIVER-
SARY!

②
H
H
H
H

I WILL
NOT
RUN
OR
HIDE!

IF THE
POLICE
CALL FOR
ME,
I WILL GO
WHERE THEY
REQUEST ME
TO!



NOW...
LET ME
THROUGH
!

YOU
HAVE NO
RIGHT TO
INTERFERE
WITH
THAT!





IS
THIS
TRUE,
BOSS
P

WHAT
IS?

LARGE
AMOUNTS OF
MONEY APPEAR
TO HAVE BEEN
DONATED AS
POLITICAL
CONTRIBUTIONS
TO
MR. SAWARASHI
KENDHARO

桜木隆一郎氏(43)



(17)



YES,
IF YOU
JUST
LOOK AT
THE FACTS

MR. HANABUSA
HAS DISCOVERED
MR. SAWARASHI
SINCE HE FIRST
AGREED TO
BECOME
A MEMBER
OF THE CAB

(18)



BUT THE
QUESTION IS,
WHY IS THIS
COMING OUT
NOW?

(19)



(20)



...AND
THE CHINESE
GOVERNMENT
IS
CONVENIENTLY
CONTROLLING
THIS FROM
BEHIND.

(10)



A SCANDAL
RIGHT BEFORE
THE NEW PRIME
MINISTER'S
INAUGURATION?
IT'S GOT TO BE
POLITICAL
MANEUVERING.

SOMEONE
WHO WILL
BENEFIT FROM
SAKURAGI...
THE CURRENT
PRIME MINISTER
IS PROBABLY
SETTING THIS
UP...



WE'RE GOING
TO HAVE TO
COME UP WITH
SOMETHING
IMMEDIATELY!



(11)

MR. SAKURAGI!
IF THEY'RE
SERIOUS,
THIS WON'T BE
THE END OF IT...
IT'S ONLY THE
BEGINNING.



JUST HOW
LOW
WILL
THE PRESENT
GOVERNMENT
STOOP?



全席 時間

THE SCOOP ON
THE LOVE
AFFAIR
OF SAKURAGI
AND
HANAMURA
TAMAKI!!
THE DAILY SHUTOKEN

WOW!



WHAT?

HMP

現代論座

長木健一郎氏への公開質問

「お前の隠し子と巨悪政治資金を
国民に釈明せよ！」

SPECIAL FEATURE: PUBLIC INQUIRY
TARGETS SAKURAGI KEN-ICHIRO.
EXPLAIN YOUR ILLEGITIMATE CHILD
AND SPURRY POLITICAL FUNDS
TO THE PEOPLE!

TAKE A
LOOK
AT
THIS!



I'VE BLIND
THE ENTIRE
NATION AND
SHOCKED BY
TODAY'S
SPORTS
PAPERS.

BUT THIS
JOURNAL OF
CURRENT
AFFAIRS TO
GO ON SALE
TOMORROW
AND EVEN
MORE
SHOCKING
NEWS!



GUN

ARE YOU
SERIOUS?
THAT'S
UNBELIEV-
ABLE!

WITH
THAT
FASHION
GURNEY

WHAT?
SAGURAGI
WAS AN
ILLEGIT-
IMATE
CHILD



YOU
CAN'T
TRUST
ANYONE
IN
POLITICS

IT'S
SHOCKING-
ING THAT HE'S
GOING TO BE
OUR NEXT
PRIME
MINISTER

HE
LOOKED
LIKE SUCH
A NICE
YOUNG
MAN,
TOO



COME
OUT
AND
EXPLAIN
TO THE
PEOPLE

SHOW
YOUR
FACE,
SAGURAGI

APPROVAL RATING:
18% FOR, 82% AGAINST

DARK CLOUDS LOOM OVER NEXT
PRIME MINISTER SAGURAGI



POLLS SHOW SHARP
DECLINE IN POPULARITY

INAUGURATION IN DOUBT



...I SWEAR
THAT
I HAVE
DONE
NOTHING
TO BE
ASHAMED
OF!

(10)

WHEN THAT
PICTURE WAS
TAKEN?
WHAT DOES
IT MEAN?

THE WOMAN
AND
THE CHILD...
IT ALL HAPP-
PENED WHEN
YOU WERE AT
STANFORD,
DIDN'T IT?

(11)

I'M NOT
GOING TO
MAKE ANY
EXCUSES.

HOWEVER

(12)

BOSS

(13)











W.
HOW
ARE
YOU
HERE?!



HEY!

THIS IS
YOUR FIRST
STORE —
THE ONE
YOU OPENED
THIRTY
YEARS AGO...

THIS IS
WHERE
TAMAKI-
HUMMELER
GOT
STARTED



CONGRATULATIONS ON THE
30TH
ANNIVERSARY
OF YOUR
COMPANY!

THANKS
BROT!



I KNOW YOU
ALWAYS COME
HERE BEFORE
YOUR BIG
SHOWS TO
REINDO
YOURSELF
OF YOUR
ROOTS

SO I
FIGURED
I'D FIND
YOU
HERE.







A
BABY?



HE... HE
LOOKS
EXACTLY
LIKE ME
WHEN
I WAS
A BABY

YOU
CAN'T
FOOL
ME.



THIS
BABY...
IS HE
MY
FATHER'S
...?

N...NO!
OF
COURSE
NOT!



GOOD-
BYE.

WAIT
!



I RESPECT
MR.
SAKURAGI
FROM THE
BOTTOM OF
MY HEART!

THIS CHILD IS
MY GREATEST
TREASURE!









THE CONSTITUTION FOR INDEPENDENCE
FROM AMERICA
THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN
日本國初代大統領・西郷從一

TM

CHAPTER 11: THE CONFESSION OF THE NEXT PRIME MINISTER

THIS IS
A
SERIOUS
MATTER!

THE MAN
ABOUT TO
BECOME THE LEADER
OF THIS NATION.
THE MAN WHO
NEEDS TO EARN
THE TRUST OF
ITS PEOPLE—
WELL, HE'S BEEN
LYING TO US!



WHEN
IT COMES
TO MONEY,
I GUESS
ALL POLITICIANS
ARE
THE SAME.

BEING A
NOMINAL,
I CAN'T
ACCEPT THE
FACT THAT
HE HAS AN
ELDERLY-
HATE
CHILD.



I WISH
TO KNOW
THIS BEFORE
THE ELECTION
VOTER TURN OUT
FOR THIS ELECTION
WAS A RECORD
88 PERCENT.
WASNT IT?

TO HAVE
BEEN KEPT IN
THE DARK
ABOUT HIS
PROBLEMS
UNTIL NOW...
I FEEL LIKE
I'VE BEEN
TRICKED.



IT'D LIKE TO
HEAR
THAT
KINGSTON'S
EXPLANATION.

A POLITICIAN'S
MAIN MOTIVE
HAS ALWAYS
BEEN, AND
ALWAYS WILL
BE, THE LOVE
OF GAIN AND
LOVE OF
POWER.



WITH THE
FLOOD REVEALING
HIS GRAY
AND POLITICAL
FUND-RAISING
UNCLEAR,
KINGSTON'S
POPULARITY HAS
DROPPED SHARPLY
SINCE THE
ELECTION.

THIS IS
EXTREMELY
LOW EVEN
WHEN
COMPARED
TO PREVIOUS
PRIME
MINISTERS.

ADDITIONAL
TO OUR SAN
POLICE, SO IN-
DU-RED-RED-RED
APPROXIMATE
RATE AND
DROPPED
DOWN TO
28 PERCENT.



**CHAPTER 11:
THE CONFESSION OF
THE NEXT PRIME MINISTER** ◉



THE LOUVRE MUSEUM



TAMAKI-NAHAMURA
30th anniversary
Paris-Collection

HERE
SHE
COMES
!









MINATO HARA,
TOKYO

I AM
STANDING IN
FRONT OF
SAKURAGI
KENICHIRO'S
OFFICE.

THE NUMBER
OF PRESS
HIRE SURVIV
ONLY
SINCE THE
WORLDWIDE
FIRST
SURVIVE



TENTS
HAVE BEEN SET
UP IN FRONT OF
THE BUILDING,
AND LARGE
BLUES ARE
MARKED FOR
PRESS USE.



HE HAS
THE
RESPONSIB
ILITY TO
ANSWER
THESE
QUESTIONS

THE
WORLD
WANTS TO
KNOW
WHAT
SAKURAGI
HAS TO
SAY!



HOWEVER,
SAKURAGI
REMAINS
SILENT.

AND THE
FILLUSTATION
OF ARROW
PEOPLE FROM
ALL AROUND
THE WORLD IS
MOUNTING.













"AI" WAS
THE WORD THE
MISSIONARIES
CHOSE WHEN
CHRISTIANITY
WAS
INTRODUCED
TO JAPAN.

"JHI" IS A
SUGGESTION



IS "JHI",
WHICH
ALSO
MEANS
COMPAS-
SION.



BUT
"JHI" IS
TO CARE
DEEPLY FOR
OTHERS
WITH
COMPAS-
SION

ORIGINALLY,
THE JAPANESE
WORD "AI" IS
BASED ON THE
EGO OF HUMAN
BEING. A
SELFISH THING



I KNOW
THAT
SOMEDAY
YOU WILL
TOO.



BUT ANY,
AFTER YOU
WERE BORN,
I CAME TO
UNDERSTAND
KING'S HEART
FOR THE
FIRST TIME.

OF
COURSE,
BACK THEN
I KNEW THE
NAME BUT
AS YOU DO
NOW













I WOULD
LIKE TO
SAY
ONE THING
BEFORE
I START



THIS IS
BARBARA
KINGHARD



I DO
NOT
INTEND TO
MAKE
ANY
EXCUSES



I WILL STATE
THE FACTS,
ALONG WITH MY
POLITICAL
OBJECTIVES,
IN AN HONEST
MANNER



I DO NOT
WISH TO
BECOME YOUR
PRIME MINISTER
IF I AM UNABLE
TO EARN
YOUR TRUST!

TAMAKI-HANAMURA

10









SAKURAGI
JOE!

DO NOT
WORRY.

THANKI-HANAMURA
SHALL WELCOME A
NEW YOUNG LEADER
AND ENTER
A NEW ERA!

INTRODUCING OUR
NEW CHIEF DESIGNER
AND PRESIDENT...

NO...
NO DOUBT
ABOUT
THAT
HE LOOKS
JUST LIKE
SAKURAGI
!!

S...
SAKURAGI
? SAKURAGI
REAL
KIDDOO'S
ILLEGIT-
IMATE
CHILD?



THIS IS TRUE!



BUT ONLY ON PAPER.
ON THE FAMILY REGISTER!



HELLO! I AM THE
NEW PRESIDENT OF
TAKASHIMANURA,
SAKURAGI JOE

THERE ARE
STORIES IN THE MEDIA
THAT I AM THE SON OF
JAPAN'S NEXT
PRIME MINISTER,
SAKURAGI KENICHIRO.



WATARU TRULY
APPRECIATED HINAMURA
TAKAKI, THE DESIGNER,
AND HE GAVE IT TO HIM
FOR BRINGING HER INTO
THE FASHION WORLD.

MY MOTHER
RESPECTED HIM
FROM THE BOTTOM
OF HER HEART,
AND SHE WAS ALSO
IN LOVE WITH HIM.



MY REAL FATHER IS
MR. SAKURAGI
KENICHIRO'S FATHER,
THE LATE SAKURAGI
WATARU

THOSE WHO
DO NOT BELIEVE THIS
TO BE TRUE CAN CONFIRM
THIS WITH ANY TRUSTED DNA
EXPERT OF YOUR CHOICE
WE'D BE HAPPY
TO COOPERATE

THAT IS NOT ALL!
CLAIMING IT WAS FOR ME,
HE DEDICATED EVERYTHING
HE INHERITED FROM HIS
FATHER TO MY MOTHER'S
BUSINESS!

18

MR. SAKURAGI
BECAME AWARE OF
THIS AT HIS FATHER'S
FUNERAL, AND
ADOPTED ME
WITHOUT HESITATION.

19

MY MOTHER FOUND OUT
THAT SHE WAS PREGNANT
WHILE STUDYING IN
FRANCE, AND ROMANTICALLY
GAINED OF HIS DRAFT
WHEN SHE CALLED HIM.

TAMAKI-HANAMURA OWES
EVERYTHING
TO MR. SAKURAGI!

IS IT
SUCH A TERRIBLE
THING TO REPAY HIS
KINDNESS, AT THE TIME
HE VENTURES INTO
A NEW ENDEAVOR?

20

I WAS TOLD THE
TRUTH THE EVENING
I ENTERED HIGH
SCHOOL.

I WILL NEVER
FORGET THOSE
WORDS OF MR.
SAKURAGI FOR THE
REST OF MY LIFE...

21

UHH...





Photo by AP/WIDEWORLD













THE CONSTITUTION FOR INDEPENDENCE
FROM AMERICA
THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN
日本国初代大總統 板本龍一 宣

The Daily Outlook

NOVEMBER 1955
TOKYO

Sakuragi Rises Again

Election for Prime Minister by popular vote proves to be the right choice; Approval rate rises nationwide



SAKURAGI RISES AGAIN
Sakuragi's rise to power is a result of the popular vote. The election was held on November 1st, and Sakuragi won by a landslide. This is a significant victory for Sakuragi and his party. The approval rate for Sakuragi's government has risen nationwide since the election.

The election results show that the people of Japan are in favor of Sakuragi's leadership. This is a clear indication of the confidence that the Japanese people have in Sakuragi and his policies. The approval rate for Sakuragi's government has risen from 55% to 75% since the election. This is a significant increase and shows that the people are satisfied with Sakuragi's performance.

Prime Minister-Elect Clears All Accusations

Sakuragi Vindicates Himself in General Policy Speech. All allegations of personal indiscretions and long-ling irregularities laid to rest.

③

Who Framed Sakuragi?

Masterminded by Present Government?



THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF FRAMING SAKURAGI. THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF FRAMING SAKURAGI. THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF FRAMING SAKURAGI.

CHAPTER 12:
THE HIGH PRICE
OF FREEDOM

Magazine Writer Confesses

"Article was commissioned by government officials. I was coerced."

World Famous Designer Hanamura Suddenly Retires



Designer relationship with Sakuragi during 30th Anniversary Collection in Paris

④



CHAPTER 12: THE HIGH PRICE OF FREEDOM

IT'S
LIKE WE
DID THIS
TO
RAISE
HIS POP-
ULARITY!

DAMN!
DAMN!
THAT
MISERABLE
SAKURAGI!



I KNOW THAT
YOU DON'T HAVE
TO TELL ME!
THAT'S WHY I'M
TRYING TO SLASH
THE SECURITY
TREATY WITH
CHINA!

WE FACE
THE DANGER
OF
TRIGGERING
A WORLDWIDE
DEPRESSION.

AND IF
THAT
WEREN'T
ENOUGH,
STOCK
PRICES
CONTINUE
TO FALL.

NOT ONLY
THAT, BUT AS
HIS POPULARITY
GROWS,
THE APPROVAL
RATING FOR
OUR CABINET
CONTINUES TO
DECLINE.

HAS EVEN
CHAIRMAN
WONG
DESERTED
ME?

HAS
CHINA
CON-
TACTED
US
YET?

PERHAPS
THERE ARE NEW
DEVELOPMENTS IN
THE CHINA-JAPAN
WAR THAT THEY'RE
OCCUPIED WITH,
AND THAT'S WHY WE
CAN'T REACH THEM.

WELL,
SIR, IT
SEEMS
THAT
CHINA HAS
GOT OFF
THE HOT-
LINE.





BUT
WE STILL
HAVE...
OUR
FINAL
OPTION.



THE LIBERAL
CONSTITUTION
PARTY IS
DESTINED FOR
POLITICAL
EXTINCTION
UNLESS IT
DISGRACE

AMERICA
WANTS A FLOOD
OF US. CHINA
THREATENS US.
AND
OUR PEOPLE
DISFRANCHISE US
COMPLETELY.

自由憲政党

LIBERAL CONSTITUTION PARTY



P-PRIME
MINISTER!
YOU
DON'T
MEAN...

WE
DO!



IF WE TAKE A
STRONG STANCE
TOWARD
THE U.S.,
JAPAN'S
ECONOMY WILL
IMPROVE AND
OUR PARTY
WILL REGAIN
POPULARITY.

WE'LL
SUPPORT
SELLING OFF
THE U.S.
GOVERN-
MENT BONDS
THAT JAPAN
HOLDS.

WE'LL
THREATEN
THE U.S.
!

EVEN IF
WE OWE
THE GOVERN-
MENT TO
SURRENDER
THIS DAY THAT,
AS LONG AS
THE LIBERAL
CONSTITUTION
PARTY SURVIVES,
I STILL HAVE
A GUNSET.



MEMORANDUM BY
GENERAL JACQUES
SERIAL NUMBER 00000



EITHER WAY
IT WILL BE A
MARRAGE
FOR THE
GOVERNMENT
AND
CIVILIANS
ALIKE!!



HOWEVER,
IT IS HIGHLY
POSSIBLE THAT
THEY'LL CARRY
BIOCHEMICAL
AGENTS
SUCH AS
SARIN OR
ANTHRAX.

NO, WE
ACCORDING
TO RELIABLE
SOURCES,
THEY ARE
NOT
NUCLEAR
WEAPONS.

ONE OF SEVERAL
SECRET AGENTS
STAYS HERE.



THE
DEFENSE
NEEDS IN
ADVANCE
ORDER FROM
THE
PRESIDENT.

THEY'LL
DO ANYTHING
TO TAKE
COMPLETE
CONTROL OF
THE SOUTH
BECAUSE
THEY'RE
AFRAID IF
THEY DON'T.

NORTH
KOREA'S
ECONOMY
AND ROAD
LEVELS ARE
NOW
ALREADY IN A
STATE OF
EMERGENCY.



...WE
THE UNITED
STATES OF
AMERICA,
HAVE NO
CHOICE
BUT TO
DESTROY
THEM.

IF A
SMALL,
WEAK
NATION
INTENDS TO
UPSET
WORLD
ORDER...

AND WE'LL
CONTINUE
UNTIL
PYONGYANG
IS
COMPLETELY
DESTROYED
!

THE SECOND
WE CONFIRM THE
LAUNCH OF ANY
NORTH KOREAN
MISSILE THAT IS
CONFIRMED TO BE
NUCLEAR-
WE INITIATE AIR
STRIKES
IMMEDIATELY!

I HEARD
YOUR ONLY
DAUGHTER
IS IN
JAPAN

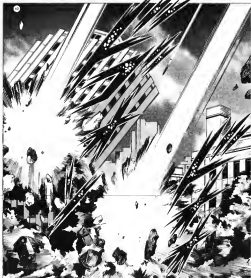
DON'T
YOU THINK
YOU
SHOULD
HAVE HER
RETURN
IMMEDI-
ATELY?

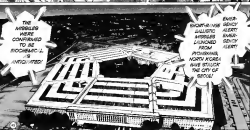
YES,
SIR!

SIR?

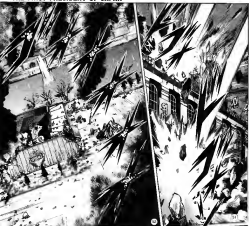
SIR?











SOUTH SOUTHWEST
 AND NORTH SOUTHWEST
 HAVE JOINED THEIR
 GENERAL
 SCHEDULES
 AND BOTH COUNTIES
 HAVE PLUNGED INTO
 TOTAL JOINTNESS

FROM THE USE AND
BOTH FORMS
SECURITY AND
ATTACHED AND
THERE ARE ALSO
UNCLASSIFIED
REPORTS THAT
NORTH AFRICA
LEADER THE WORK IS
IN CHARGE

The beauty
of the
American
South is
Florida and
the City of
World
Attractions
will be
some

THE PROGRAM
CARRIES ON
WORKING FOR
BETTER
FUTURES
FOR ALL











I REMEMBER
WE USED TO
GO OVER
CASE STUDIES,
EXAMINING ALL
ASPECTS OF
POLITICAL
MATTERS...

...AND IT
WOULD
ALWAYS
END WITH
ME GIVING
YOU A
GOOD
PUNCH!
HA HA!

WHAT?
P

YOU LOOK
GOOD,
KENSIRO.

JAPAN
MUST
BE
REBORN.

YES...
AND IT
WOULD
ALWAYS
END
WITH
HASEGAWA
GIVING
ME A
PUNCH!

AND
KENSIRO...
I BELIEVE
THAT
YOU'RE
THE MAN
TO DO
IT!

...BUT YOU'RE
NOT FIT TO BE
"PRESIDENT"
IF YOU
CONTINUE TO
CALL AN OLD
MAN LIKE ME
"HASEGAWA"!

HEY, HEY!
YOU MAY
HAVE
STARTED
YOUR
POLITICAL
CAREER
WORKING ON
MY TEAM...





I'M SORRY, BUT CAN YOU WAIT FOR MR. ONDA?

YES P



HE INSISTS THAT "THIS IS THE LEAST I CAN DO FOR KENCHI'S DAY OF HONOR"

HE'S HANDS A HAND-WRITTEN COPY OF THE CURRENT LINE-UP THAT IS, NAUGHT BUT ANOTHER COPY



HUP HURRY'S ONDA?

HE SAID HE'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND US...



VERY WELL, SIR, BUT DO LET ME DRIVE YOU TO YOUR INAUGURATION CEREMONY



WHO, ME?

DON'T WORRY, I'VE GOT SECURITY RIGHT HERE!

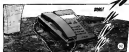


I'LL GO IN KUBOTA'S CAR

WELL, THAT'S NO ROOM FOR SECURITY IN A JAPANESE I'LL GET CHEERED OUT BY ONDA AGAIN!



OF COURSE! I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU!















K...
KEN...
ICHI...
RO...





Plotting by Kenichiro Kawakami





THE U.S.
WILL
SANCTION
JAPAN AS AN
"ENEMY"
COUNTRY AND
FREEZE ALL
JAPANESE
ASSETS
WITHIN THE
COUNTRY!

BASED ON THE
INTERNATIONAL
EMERGENCY
ECONOMIC
AUTHORITY
LAW...

...PRESIDENT
CARRUTHERS
WILL
IMMEDIATELY
EXERCISE
HIS
PRESIDEN-
TIAL
PRIVILEGE.

IF JAPAN
DECLARES
ITS
INTENTION
TO SELL
U.S.
GOVERN-
MENT
BONDS...



...HAS
SURVIVED
MORE THAN
HALF
A CENTURY TO
BE USED TO
BE USED TO
ATTACK JAPAN
AGAIN...
HOW IRONIC...

THE LAW
ENACTED
DURING
WORLD WAR II
AGAINST
JAPAN,
AN ENEMY
COUNTRY...



PERFECT
KEN-
CHOU...

I THINK...
I CAN REST
NOW...
WITH PEACE
OF MIND...



2
SENSEI
!!



IF I HAD
BEEN
MORE
CAU-
TIOUS

I WAS
CARELESS

I AM
SO
PROUD...
OF
YOU...

PERHAPS
THERE ARE NOT
THE WORDS FOR
A MAN WHO HAS
ALREADY
SURPASSED ME
BUT...

...YOU
WERE...
MY BEST
PUPIL...



FREEDOM IS
NOT FREE.
FREEDOM IS BUILT
ON SACRIFICE.

IF I AM
TO DIE
INSTEAD
OF YOU...
I AM
QUITE...
HONORED



THE CONDITION FOR INDEPENDENCE
FROM AMERICA
THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN
日本初代大統領・板垣退蔵



FIVE PEOPLE INCLUDING JOURNALISTS WERE KILLED IN THE EXPLOSION. MORE THAN FIFTY PEOPLE WERE INJURED, AND EIGHT ARE IN CRITICAL CONDITION.

AT 1 PM TODAY, A BOMB EXPLODED IN FRONT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HALL IN AOYAMA, TOKYO.



ACCORDING TO POLICE REPORTS, A REMOTE CONTROLLED BOMB PLACED IN MR. SAKURAGI'S VEHICLE WAS DETONATED WHEN IT ARRIVED AT THE CONFERENCE HALL. MR. OCHI AND HIS IN THE VEHICLE.

SAKURAGI KENICHIRO'S POLITICAL ADVISER OCHII SAWARO IS AMONG THE DEAD.



THIS WAS COURTESY'S TERRORIST ATTACK ON SAKURAGI KENICHIRO, THE PRIME MINISTER-ELECT.

HOWEVER, IT IS EXPECTED TO BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY THOSE RESPONSIBLE, IN VIEW OF THE CURRENT ASIAN CRISIS.

CHAPTER 13: THE RESOLVE OF THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN



**CHAPTER 13:
THE RESOLVE OF
THE FIRST PRESIDENT
OF JAPAN**









AND I WILL
NEVER FORGIVE
THOSE WHO
THREATEN
THE WELL-BEING
AND PRIVATE
ASSETS OF OVER
TWO HUNDRED
MILLION
AMERICAN
CITIZENS!

I AM THE
PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED
STATES OF
AMERICA.



WE WILL
FREEZE ALL
JAPANESE
ASSETS
WITHIN THE
UNITED
STATES OF
AMERICA!

ONCE THE CHAIRMAN
CABINET OFFICIALLY
DECLARES ITS INTENT
TO SELL THE U.S.
GOVERNMENT BONDS,
I'LL SANCTION THE
INTERNATIONAL EMER-
GENCY ECONOMIC
ALPHABET!



"HISTORY
REPEATS
ITSELF"

WHAT?
P



THIS IS
EXACTLY HOW
JAPAN'S ROAD
TO WAR
STARTED HALF
A CENTURY
AGO.

ECONOMIC
BLOCKADE
AND THEN...

ISOLATION
FROM THE
REST OF THE
WORLD



IT IS ALL
UP TO
JAPAN
NOW!

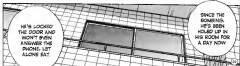


WE MUST
NOT LET
THAT
HAPPEN
AGAIN



IT WILL BE
IMPOSSIBLE
TO GET HIM
TO DECEASE

BUT THE IS
PRESIDENT
CHIEF...
KNOWN AS
"THE LION"
AND "THE MAN OF
IRON"...









IT'S FROM
MR. ONDA





56



57



HE CAME TO
THE BAR A
FEW DAYS
AGO, ALONE

HE SAID
"IF ANYTHING EVER
HAPPENS TO ME,
PLEASE TELL
THE ALONG WITH
KIMCHI'S FAVORITE DISH"



WHAT'S
THIS?

健一郎

58



59





YOU'VE BEEN
LOOKING SO
STERN EVER
SINCE YOU
WERE ELECTED
PRIME
MINISTER.

THESE PAST
FEW MONTHS
HAVE BEEN
SO TOUGH
ON YOU.

18

THE
KENICHIRO
THAT I LOVE IS
KIND, WITH A
SENSE OF
HUMOR...

YOU
NEED TO
RELAX.

...AND A
MAN WHO
DOES
WHAT HE
BELIEVES
IN!

YOU
SHOULD
JUST BE
YOURSELF.

ISN'T THAT
THE SAKURAGI
KENICHIRO
THE JAPANESE
PEOPLE HAVE
CHOSEN?



STAY
LIKE
THIS...

...JUST A
LITTLE
LONGER...
PLEASE...



BARBARA KIRCHOFF'S OFFICE





BUT YOU
CAN'T
RUSH UP
LIKE THIS!

STAND BACK,
DUMBO!
WE'LL GIVE
YOU A
REVENGEMENT IF
YOU NEED
ONE!



MR.
SALUSADACH,
PLEASE
HURRY
INSIDE!



MR.
SALUSADACH!
YOUR
STATEMENT
ON THE
BOMBING!

HOW DOES
IT FEEL
TO BE A
TERRORIST
TARGET?

WHO DO
YOU THINK
THE PRESIDENT-
TRAITORS
ARE?



AS THE
NEXT PRIME
MINISTER
OF THIS
COUNTRY,
I WILL NOT
FORGIVE
SUCH AN
OUTRAGE

THIS
BOMBING
WAS CLEARLY
A THREAT
TOWARDS THE
NATION OF
JAPAN!!



I HAVE
JUST ONE
THING TO
SAY TO
THOSE
HERE!



MR.
SALUSADACH!



FREEDOM...
I AM WELL
AWARE THAT WE
MUST MAKE
SACRIFICES TO
LIVE IN A FREE
WORLD.

FREEDOM IS
NOT FREE!



I WILL DO
EVERYTHING WITHIN
MY POWER TO
PROTECT THE SAFETY
OF INDIVIDUALS...
AND THE SAFETY
OF THIS NATION.

BUT I WILL
NOT
FORGIVE
THOSE WHO
VIOLATE THIS
FREEDOM.



11

THIS IS A
MESSAGE
TO THE
PARLIAMENT.

ONCE
I TAKE
OFFICE AS
PRIME
MINISTER...



HUH?
?













MY MOTHER
WORKED
HARD TO
RAISE MY
OLDER
BROTHER
AND ME
ALONE...



I WAS BORN
RIGHT AFTER
MY FATHER
DIED IN THE
KOREAN
WAR.



H. CARRADINE

AND...
WE LOST
HIM IN THE
VIETNAM
WAR.



AND WHEN MY
BROTHER WAS
15 YEARS OLD
ALTHOUGH HE
HAD EXCELLENT
GRADES, HE
JOINED THE
ARMY INSTEAD
OF GOING TO
COLLEGE.



THE
FREEDOM
AND PEACE
OF OUR
COUNTRY...



HE WANTED
TO SUPPORT
MY MOTHER
AND ME.

...HAVE
ALWAYS
BEEN
PROTECTED
BY THE
SACRIFICE
OF A
LOVED
ONE.









WITH MY
INAUGURATION,
JAPAN WILL
BE A TRULY
INDEPENDENT
NATION FOR
THE FIRST
TIME!

IN FACT, I CAN'T
SEE MYSELF
FOLLOWING A
SCRIPT THAT
WOULD MAKE
THE U.S. VERY
HAPPY.

YOU'RE AN
INTERESTING
MAN. I CAN'T
WAIT TO MEET
YOU IN
PERSON.

*MR.
PRESIDENT!*

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN, Vol.2

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